

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, PFOR, PGOV, AU, US (KREISKY, BRUNO)

SUBJECT: KREISKY QUERY RE POSSIBLE MEETING WITH SECRETARY AND
HIS PROPOSED COMMENTS RE SECRETARY BEFORE INTERNATIONAL RESCUE
COMMITTEE, NEW YORK, APRIL 14

REF: VIENNA 2871

1. IN MY CONVERSATION AT VIENNA AIRPORT APRIL 13 WITH
CHANCELLOR KREISKY PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR US, IN INDICATED
IN RESPONSE TO HIS QUERY THAT WE STILL HAD NOT HAD ANY
DEFINITE WORD FROM WASHINGTON ABOUT CHANCELLOR'S EARLIER
EXPRESSION OF DESIRE TO MEET WITH SECRETARY, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE,
IN COURSE OF KREISKY VISIT TO US, APRIL 13-17 (REF A). I
ADDED THAT AS CHANCELLOR COULD WELL UNDERSTAND, SECRETARY WAS
VERY MUCH OCCUPIED THESE DAYS WITH PRESSING BUSINESS OF
LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN WORLD TROUBLE SPOTS.

2. CHANCELLOR GAVE ME COPY OF DRAFT OF HIS PROPOSED SPEECH
TO BE GIVEN BEFORE NYC INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE CEREMONY
EVENING APRIL 14 AND CALLED PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO
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CONCLUDING PARAGRAPHS WHICH FOLLOW:

"THE MIDDLE EAST TODAY IS A REGION OF VIRULENT TENSION AND WE KNOW WELL HOW IMPORTANT THIS REGION IS FOR THE ENERGY SUPPLY OF EUROPE AS WELL AS FOR THE PEACE OF THE WORLD. I HAVE INFORMED MYSELF ON THE SUBJECT FROM FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE BUT TO TALK OF THIS WOULD GO FAR BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THIS SHORT SPEECH.

" PERMIT ME, HOWEVER, THAT, FULLY CONSCIOUS OF MY RESPONSIBILITY, I MAY SAY THIS: THE LATEST MISSION OF DR. HENRY KISSINGER WAS A FAILURE. BUT IT DOES NOT FOLLOW THAT HIS NEXT MISSION WILL ALSO FAIL. AND WHOEVER CRITICIZES DR. KISSINGER'S STEP-BY-STEP POLICY, MUST CONSIDER THAT HE WAS THE ONLY STATESMAN IN THE LAST THIRTY YEARS WHO SUCCEEDED IN HALTING A BLOODY WAR WITHOUT RESORTING TO THE USE OF FORCE. ONLY TEMPORARILY, MAYBE, BUT 19 MONTHS AFTER THE FULL-SCALE WAR STOPPED, THERE ARE RARE INDIVIDUAL ENGAGEMENTS BUT NO BATTLES. THIS IS THE HISTORICAL ACHIEVEMENT OF HENRY KISSINGER.

" AND IT IS CERTAINLY A MUCH BETTER PREREQUISITE OF FUTURE CONSTRUCTIVE STEPS TOWARDS PEACE THAN ANY OTHER SITUATION BEFORE.

" YOU MAY CRITICIZE YOUR STATESMEN AS MUCH AS YOU PLEASE, IT IS YOUR AFFAIR, BUT I THINK, IT IS MY TASK TO SAY WITHOUT HESITATION WHAT I BELIEVE. I SPEAK OF PEACE BECAUSE IT IS THE INDISPENSABLE PRECONDITION OF FREEDOM". BUCHANAN

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